



FRIENDS WITH MANOLOS

TORONTO ACTRESS ELLEN WONG PLAYS A TEEN CARRIE BRADSHAW'S BFF IN THE UPCOMING PREQUEL TO SATC PAGE 9

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Thursday, January 10, 2013



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BURKE OUT, NONIS IN

Then Toronto Maple Leafs general manager Brian Burke attends a year-end press briefing in Toronto in April 2011. The Leafs made a stunning move just days before the regular season is to start by firing Burke and replacing him with Dave Nonis, inset. More coverage, page 14. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Cuts on the table

2013 budget.

Council brainstorms ways to slash spending to ensure third consecutive tax freeze



ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Coming up

- The city is inviting people to try their hand at budgeting during Saturday's Build a Budget workshop at city hall.
- Details are at builda-budget.eventbrite.com.

To sell or not to sell?

That's one of several multi-million-dollar questions city politicians are asking as they debate the 2013 budget and a decade's worth of economy-boosting projects.

Selling city assets has been recommended as one way to pay for the estimated \$60-million plan for economic development, which includes prepping industrial lands and building a performing-arts centre.

Other proposals — presented by city staff on Wednesday — include forcing London Hydro to make a lump-sum payment on a loan from the city and putting \$2.5 million a year from tax-assessment growth toward the cause.

No mention was made of exactly which assets could be sold during the meeting, the first of several before a planned Feb. 28 budget vote.

Administrators painted a clear picture of the long road politicians will plod between now and then. Everything from reduced funding for snow removal to slashing library hours and cutting public transit is up for discussion.

Staff tabled the draft budget last month, recommending a 2.5 per cent tax increase —

about \$59 a year for the average homeowner. It includes some \$5.7 million in new service cuts, makes permanent about \$2.4 million in cuts approved in 2012, and \$421,000 in new revenue through increased user fees.

Council will need to cut \$11.5 million from the proposal to see a third consecutive tax freeze, something the majority have endorsed.

Getting there would include dipping into planned service improvements such as adding bike lanes to roads and building spray pads, staff said.

It would also require freezing funding to boards and commissions.

Larry Ducharme, general manager of the London Transit Commission, didn't mince words about what that would mean.

Cuts, he said, would include eliminating nearly 20 jobs and would leave some areas of the city without service.

"If you think you have service-quality issues (now), we're just going to make them a whole lot worse," he said.

Follow Angela Mullins on
Twitter @MetroAngela



Downtown Dollarama: Chain retailer moving in

Big biz. Cheap goods store to be settled in by the end of March



ANGELA MULLINS

angela.mullins@metronews.ca

A national retail chain has its sights on an empty storefront near Dundas and Richmond Streets.

Montreal-based Dollarama plans to open a store at 141 Dundas St. by the end of March, company officials have confirmed to Metro.

The store will be the chain's 11th in London, according to Dollarama's website.

The Dundas Street storefront has been vacant since Shoppers Drug Mart moved to Richmond and Carling Streets in November 2011.

It's the second announcement this week about a national retailer's plans for downtown.

A Pharma Plus will open this spring at a long-vacant building on the northeast corner of Richmond and Dundas, said developer Shmuel Farhi, who owns the property. The business will occupy the low-

er, ground and second levels of the five-storey building.

The store, Farhi said, will be a "Vancouver- and Toronto-style" development with an escalator ferrying people between the ground and second floors. He expects announcements at some point this year about plans for the rest of the space.

Janette MacDonald, manager of Downtown London, is encouraged by the new additions. Along with the potential to draw a lot of shoppers, the stores are a sign that big businesses have faith in downtown.

Where it's at

- Sitting just west of Richmond Street, 141 Dundas St. is the street-level portion of a building occupied by The Skill Centre.
- It's between the McDonald's restaurant in Market Tower and Market Lane.

"It solidifies the fact that we're heading in the right direction, and we're starting to

get the critical mass of clientele (in the core)," MacDonald said. "That's what we're looking for on the street, is that active foot traffic with something that brings return customers."

Dollarama stores typically have about 20 employees, spokeswoman Lyla Radmanovich said. The downtown store is one of 75 to 80 the company expects to open this fiscal year across Canada, Radmanovich said.

Follow Angela Mullins on Twitter @MetroAngela



People walk past the empty storefront at 141 Dundas St. on Wednesday. Dollarama has confirmed plans to open there early this year. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Union. Teachers to stage one-day walkout protest

Tens of thousands of Ontario elementary teachers and education workers will stage a one-day protest Friday over the government's decision to impose new collective agreements, their union said Wednesday.

The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario — one of the largest teachers' unions in Canada — said it's following through on what the majority of its 76,000 members said they wanted should contracts be forced on them.

The union said they even offered a truce to the governing Liberals, promising to hold off on any action if the government didn't use their controversial anti-strike law to impose the contracts until the next premier is chosen Jan. 26.

"The (education) minister

Closed

Thames Valley elementary schools will be closed Friday. Parents and guardians of elementary students will need to arrange alternate daycare for their children.
— THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

made a deliberate and provocative choice to wipe out the democratic rights of tens of thousands of educators rather than work towards a respectful solution," ETFO president Sam Hammond said in a release.

"She could have taken our olive branch and waited for a new leader to try and find solutions," THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stats

Housing starts up last year: CMHC

Despite a decrease in housing starts from November to December, annual starts were up last year from 2011 in the London area, according to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. METRO

#IdleNoMore

Protest expected at Richmond-Dundas

Police said there could be a traffic disruption Thursday at noon at the Richmond-Dundas intersection. Supporters of Idle No More may be conducting a flash mob-type event that would interrupt the flow of traffic. METRO

97 new cases. Londoners can't shake the flu bug

The flu is continuing to wallop London, with the health unit reporting 97 new cases since Jan. 1, and 12 deaths for the season.

Newly confirmed cases bring the total to 327 since Sept. 1. Of the deaths, nine were reported between Dec. 18 and Monday, the health unit says.

The death toll is an indicator of just how severe the flu bug is this year, said Bryna Warshawsky, the Middlesex-London Health Unit's acting medical officer of health. Cases have continued to increase since the health unit declared a community-wide outbreak in late November.

"Relative to the amount of cases you see out there, you're

Help stop the spread

- St. Joseph's Health Care is asking visitors to take extra precautions as it battles flu outbreaks in three units of Parkwood Hospital.
- People are asked to avoid other areas of the hospital when visiting someone in isolation. People should consider postponing visits if they don't feel well.

going to see more deaths," she said.

Three deaths were reported during the 2011-12 flu season, which was considered mild.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Wine & Food Show adds flair bartending to foodie party

Western Fair District.

Organizer calls show the perfect chance to indulge in new food — and learn from the best



JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

Heads up, foodies: The London Wine & Food Show is back for an eighth year.

The popular event is scheduled to take place at the Western Fair District from Thursday through Saturday.

This year's edition offers a flair bartending show for the first time, as well as new seminar topics and food/beverage exhibitors.

Heather Blackwell, director of corporate affairs for Western Fair District, says it's a perfect opportunity to indulge in a drink or dish you may have never tried before.

"Everyone loves our Girl's Night Out affair on Friday of the show," she said. "It's become one of the most popular highlights of the three-day event."

To complement ladies night, organizers have in-



Felipe Gomes, owner of Aroma Restaurant, works at his booth at the London Wine & Food Show last year. WESTERNAIRDISTRICT.COM

serted a "man cave" area into the floor plan. It's designed to showcase certain beers, spirits and barbecue food.

Despite its light-hearted theme, Blackwell says there's some learning to do

at the show, too.

"The educational component is really valuable to everyone. You can converse with connoisseurs, experts and view numerous demonstrations that provide an education to everyone who

participates in the show," she said.

General admission is \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. For more information on other ticket packages, visit westernfairdistrict.com.

Parking is free of charge.

When to go

London Wine & Food Show hours:

- Thursday: 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

- Friday: 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
- Saturday: Noon to 10:30 p.m.

We are local: Moxie's defends Londonlicious spot



Londonlicious runs from Jan. 17 to Feb. 3. LONDONLICIOUS.CA

What should be considered a local restaurant?

It's a hot topic among Londoners, on the web and elsewhere recently. The debate's roots lie in Kantina restaurant's withdrawal from Londonlicious on Monday.

The Talbot Street eatery announced on Facebook it was stepping down because owners disagree with festival organizers, who have added a national chain for the first time.

The regional manager of Moxie's, the chain in question, says his restaurant most certainly meets the debatable

qualifications of being considered local.

"I buy local produce, I get local supplies, so I'm helping the local economy," Don Baete said. "I'm a local business owner. It's not like I get my food from Halifax."

According to Baete, the company's downtown location employs about 100 people. Its south London spot gives an additional 80 people work.

Baete's territory covers both London-based Moxie's, as well as locations in Windsor, Guelph and Thunder Bay. He also has shares in the restaurants he

Londonlicious

- Dates: Jan. 17 to Feb. 3
- Restaurants participating: 35
- More info: Londonlicious.ca

looks over.

"We're trying it for the first time, too," Baete said about Londonlicious. "Is it going to be successful for us? I don't know. We paid to be a part of Londonlicious, just like everyone else."

On Wednesday, Kantina

owners released another Facebook statement, saying they'd "like to make it 100% clear that we have nothing against Moxie's [sic] and the employees that work there."

Although they have chosen to take themselves out of the festival, they still encourage customers to dine out.

"In disagreeing with Londonlicious, we don't want consumers to punish those other restaurants by not patronizing them during such an integral period of their business year," the statement says.

JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Cyber crime

London man facing child-porn charges

A 36-year-old man has been charged with child pornography violations after a London police cyber crime unit investigation. As a result, William Allard was charged with possession and accessing child pornography. **METRO**

Cedar Swamp Road

Two face drug, weapons charges

A police search warrant in North Middlesex has led to a seizure of \$10,000 worth of suspected marijuana and weapons charges. Andrew Bartlett, 35, of North Middlesex, and Tara Lynn Martin, 36, of London have been charged. **METRO**

Strategy: ebr.gov.on.ca

Ontario cycling plan the focus of public forum

The Thames River Ecological Association (TREA) is planning a Thursday forum to gather feedback and suggestions on Ontario's draft cycling strategy.

People have until Jan. 29

to comment on the proposal, designed to encourage cycling and make it safer.

The strategy proposed improvements to cycling infrastructure, public education and legislation. It includes a call to update the province's driver's handbook with better guidelines for sharing the road. The TREA meeting is from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Grosvenor Lodge, 1017 Western Rd. **METRO**

Up for grabs

\$1,000 grant an Awesome idea

London's Awesome Foundation is soliciting ideas from people to compete for a \$1,000 grant. You must apply in writing online at awesomefoundation.org by Monday. Next pitch session is at Joe Kool's on Jan. 28. **METRO**

Fanshawe College

Sign up for London Startup

At startup weekends, you can test your idea and take the first step toward launching your own business. The next event is scheduled for Feb. 8 to 10 in the Colvin Atrium at Fanshawe College. To register, visit ldn.startupweekend.org. **METRO**

No Governor General? No Friday meeting, Chief Spence affirms

Hunger strike. First Nations leader calls on Queen to help get David Johnston in Friday meeting

Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence abruptly changed her mind Wednesday, refusing to attend Friday's hard-won First Nations meetings with the federal government because Gov. Gen. David Johnston isn't planning to be there.

Spence — whose month-long protest on Victoria Island was predicated on winning a meeting with both Johnston and Prime Minister Stephen Harper — said she's written to Buckingham Palace to enlist the help of the Queen.

Social-media speculation that Johnston might change his mind was scotched Wednesday afternoon by a spokesperson for Rideau Hall: "As previously stated, the Governor General will not attend Friday's meeting. This has not changed."

Spence has been camped out on an island in the Ottawa

River since Dec. 11, subsisting solely on fish broth and medicinal tea in hopes of convincing Harper and Johnston to sit down with First Nations leaders to discuss historical treaty rights.

Spence wants Johnston present at the meetings because the talks are supposed to focus on the treaty rights that were established by the Royal Proclamation of 1793, issued by King George III.

"We have sent a letter to Buckingham Palace, requesting that Queen Elizabeth II send forth her representa-

tive, which is the Governor General of Canada," she said in a statement.

A spokesperson for Johnston has said he would not attend the sessions on Friday because the gathering is a working meeting with government on public policy issues.

The precise issues have yet to be defined. Some clarity was expected Wednesday from Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, but that news conference was rescheduled for Thursday shortly after Spence pulled out.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Idle No More

Enlisting social media

Social media has become a teaching tool for many, and one Alberta student is delving into how it can help teach and inspire an entire culture into action.

University of Alberta Native Studies student Kirsten Lindquist has launched a research project that looks at

the role social media plays in Indigenous scholars' work, but has also been following the Idle No More movement with great interest.

Lindquist said that social media, particularly Twitter, has helped Idle No More spread across the country by making it more accessible and relatable to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons.

LAURIE CALLEN/METRO



Killer whales fight for their lives in northern Quebec

Orcas surface for air in a small hole in the ice near Inukjuak, Que., on Wednesday. The community, in Quebec's Far North, wants Ottawa to deploy an icebreaker to free about a dozen of the whales cornered under a vast stretch of sea ice. Locals say the mammals have gathered around one hole in the ice — slightly bigger than a pickup truck — in their desperate bid to get oxygen. Mayor Peter Inukpuk believes a sudden drop in temperature recently caught the pod off guard, leaving them boxed in under the ice.

MARINA LACASSE, HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hudson Bay. Stranded hunters rescue rescuers from sinking helicopter

Two seal hunters who were stranded on an ice floe near the west shore of Hudson Bay ended up rescuing their rescuer.

Capt. Jill Strelieff with 1 Canadian Air Division says the rescue helicopter landed on the ice floe, but because of its weight, it broke through the ice.

She says the two hunters pulled the pilot out of the partially submerged helicopter.

Then two search and rescue

technicians parachuted down from a Hercules to help the three.

A Griffon helicopter from Cold Lake, Alta., transported the hunters, the pilot and the two search and rescue technicians to Arviat, Nunavut.

Mounties say the hunters and the pilot are being treated for hypothermia and their injuries are not as bad as first feared. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Worthy investment. Poll shows Canadian support for arts and culture

An overwhelming majority of Canadians believe arts and culture is worthy of government support, according to the results of a poll commissioned by Canadian Heritage.

When asked: "How much importance do you think governments in Canada should place on supporting arts and culture in Canada?" 39 per cent chose "a great deal," while 48 per cent chose a "moderate

National poll

57

About 57 per cent of Canadians polled said they were personally involved in an artistic activity during the past 12 months.

amount." Nine per cent said "not very much" and three per cent responded "no importance at all." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Medicine. Falsely positive spin put on many drug trials, new study suggests

Not all patient drug trials published in even the most prestigious of medical journals can be taken as gospel, say researchers who have found a high proportion of "spin and bias" in the reporting of results.

Researchers at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre reviewed 164 breast cancer trials. They found that in studies that reported no real benefit of treatment, a large proportion

focused on less important outcomes to give a more positive spin to results.

Of 92 trials that had negative primary outcomes, about 60 per cent used some secondary measures, "often trying to make the study look positive, though it really was not," said medical oncologist Dr. Ian Tannock, who led the study published this week in the Annals of Oncology. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Botched probe must spark change: Lawyer

Soldier suicide.
Investigation designed to absolve military, argues retired colonel

The pain endured by the family of an Edmonton soldier who killed himself should be used as a springboard for changes to the treatment of veterans and their loved ones, the family's lawyer said Wednesday.

The investigations into the 2008 suicide of Cpl. Stuart Langridge were handled in an inept manner, retired colonel Michel Drapeau told the Military Police Complaints Commission hearing.

After eight months of work and 92 witnesses, the hearing ended Wednesday, with Drapeau and lawyers for the government pressing their cases for a final time.

The public interest hearing was convened following com-

Unimpressed

"It has created an extra layer of pain ... that was preventable ... had a modicum of transparency, accountability and basic compassion been displayed."

Retired colonel Michel Drapeau on investigations into the suicide of Cpl. Stuart Langridge.

plaints from Langridge's family that the investigation into their son's death was biased and designed to absolve the military.

Langridge, a veteran of Afghanistan and Bosnia, hanged

himself in March 2008 following treatment for drug and alcohol addiction in a civilian hospital.

The inquiry heard how military police concealed Lang-

ridge's suicide note from his parents for 14 months, claiming it was evidence in a suspicious-death probe.

The National Investigation Service has acknowledged it mishandled the note and has improved its procedures since, said Korinda McLaine, lawyer for the federal government.

"Although it may be tempting to look back on the investigations with the perfect lens of hindsight, that would not be fair to the subjects in this com-

plaint," she said.

There were also conflicting claims about whether the troubled soldier was on a suicide watch prior to his death. If so, the military would have been liable for his death.

The inquiry also heard how the final military police report into the death was heavily rewritten and censored.

All of this was to protect the military, not respect Langridge or his family, Drapeau said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hearing date set. Alleged murderer Luka Magnotta returns to the courtroom

A shackled Luka Rocco Magnotta remained impassive as he made his first court appearance since last June on a first-degree murder charge in the gruesome slaying of a Montreal university student.

Lawyers set the stage on Wednesday for a preliminary hearing beginning March 11.

The hearing, which will determine whether the 30-year-old Ontario native is sent to trial, is scheduled to last at least two weeks and possibly resume in June.

Magnotta is charged with first-degree murder in the slaying and dismemberment of Chinese engineering student

Jun Lin last May.

Most of the contents of Wednesday's 35-minute hearing cannot be revealed because of a publication ban.

Magnotta faces other charges: Committing an indignity to a body; publishing obscene material; criminally harassing Prime Minister Stephen Harper and other members of Parliament; and mailing obscene and indecent material.

He is accused of mailing Lin's body parts to different places, including the Ottawa offices of the Conservative Party of Canada, the Liberal Party of Canada and two Vancouver schools. THE CANADIAN PRESS



An artist rendering of alleged killer Luka Rocco Magnotta in a Montreal court on Wednesday. MIKE McLAUGHLIN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Newtown shooting

Obama to take drastic action on gun control: VP

U.S. President Barack Obama intends to take serious action on gun control, even if it means circumventing Congress and issuing executive orders to do so, Joe Biden suggested Wednesday.

"The president is going to act," said the vice-president, who's heading a task force on gun control.

Last month's mass shooting in Newtown, Conn., has

necessitated "immediate, urgent action," Biden added.

Obama hopes to announce his administration's gun reform measures shortly after his inauguration on Jan. 21.

The inaugural weekend festivities might be disrupted by a coalition of conservative and gun-rights groups organizing a "Gun Appreciation Day" on the weekend of the inauguration. The group is calling on people to visit gun stores, gun ranges and gun shows with U.S. flags and "Hands off my gun" signs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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vary depending upon type of property and location. For 2.99%, 3 year fixed rate offer, APR is **3.04%**. For 3.59%, 7 year fixed rate offer, APR is **3.61%**. ² We will pay the basic title insurance fee, processing fee and one discharge fee (up to \$300 maximum). Offer excludes mortgage prepayment charges that you may have to pay. Minimum advance \$50,000. ³ The interest rate will fluctuate with the Prime Rate and is subject to change at any time without notice. These rates can be changed, withdrawn or extended at any time without notice. Residential rate mortgages are offered by Royal Bank of Canada and are subject to its standard lending criteria. ®/™ Trademark(s) of Royal Bank of Canada. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada.





Lump it! Half of Canucks contribute to RRSPs all at once

March 1 deadline. But stress of saving would be reduced by putting aside smaller sums throughout year, new survey finds

Canadians who are stressed about the annual RRSP deadline are not alone, according to a new study that found 60 per cent of respondents feel anxious about coming up with the money for their retirement savings.

And almost half of respondents to the survey — 49 per cent — who make an annual RRSP contribution do so in a lump sum, said the Bank of Montreal study released Wednesday.

The uneasiness around the March 1 deadline is understandable when Canadians have to deal with other financial priorities, said Marlena Pospiech, senior manager

| Market Minute | |
|---|--|
|  | DOLLAR 101.25¢ (-0.10¢) |
|  | TSX 12,522.24 (+17.43) |
|  | OIL \$93.10 US (-5¢) |
|  | GOLD \$1,655.50 US (-\$6.70) |
| Natural gas: \$3.11 US (-10.5¢) | |
| Dow Jones: 13,390.51 (+61.66) | |

with BMO Wealth Planning Group.

"If they haven't saved regularly it could be really hard, especially coming out of the holiday season and if they have racked up a lot of debt over that time," Pospiech said.

The BMO study also found

By the numbers

\$4,670

BMO said that the average amount contributed to a registered retirement savings plan in 2011 was \$4,670. Putting aside just under \$400 a month in a continuous savings plan for an RRSP would generate that amount.

that 54 per cent of those surveyed would feel less stressed if they made regular RRSP contributions throughout the year to meet the deadline.

BMO said contributing even a small amount — a few hundred dollars — to an RRSP is better than nothing at all. "If they don't have the full amount, that should not stop them from making a contribution," Pospiech said.

"Any little bit helps because of the tax-deferred compound growth. It makes their money work a lot harder for them rather than having it just sitting." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



So long Messenger, hello Skype

Those nostalgic for the days of overly personal status updates and usernames with alternating caps may be disappointed by Microsoft's latest move to retire its once-dominant MSN/Windows Live Messenger. Accounts will be migrated over to Skype during the course of the first quarter of 2013, according to a blog post from Tony Bates, president of Microsoft's Skype division. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

Speculation

Will Apple make a cheaper iPhone?

A published report says Apple may introduce a cheaper iPhone in an effort to reclaim some of the sales that the company has been losing to less expensive hand-

sets running on Google's Android software.

A story in The Wall Street Journal speculates that Apple could lower the iPhone's price by equipping the device with an exterior that costs less than aluminum housing on current models. Apple Inc. declined to comment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Take flight. Contest offers trip to space

One Canadian will get the chance to become an astronaut as part of a contest that will send winners 100 kilometres into space.

Contestants from 60 countries will vie for a trip aboard a suborbital spacecraft named the Lynx, a two-seat space plane that takes off and lands as a normal airplane at regular airports. Seats aboard the vehicle usually cost about \$100,000 U.S.

By joining the "space academy" at AXE Apollo.com, both men and women will have the chance to win one of 22 tickets to travel on the Lynx. Contestants are asked to create an astronaut profile and tell the world why they deserve to go to space.

Two Canadians will win a place at the final stage at the AXE global space camp in Orlando, Fla., with one Canadian getting the chance to shoot into space.

The space camp is backed by Buzz Aldrin, who was one of the first men to walk on the moon. Aldrin will be recruiting the candidates. The final 22 spots will be decided on space-simulation challenges.

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16 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS IN ONTARIO

IT'S ALL IN THE GAME – TIME TO MAKE UP



HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/voices/
he-says

Yes, yes. I'm deeply shocked that people who make a lot of money are greedy, especially professional athletes and corporate owners, two groups that have such a strong record of

selflessness.

Now pipe down. The game's on.

I'm unequivocally, unapologetically ecstatic the NHL is back from its four-month lockout. This apparently makes me a sheep, according to many bitter fans and newspaper columnists. Baa, baa, go Bruins.

I suffered as much as the next person — my local bar replaced hockey with 80s karaoke — but I know that any ill feelings will melt away for me as soon as the puck is dropped. Sorry.

If you're still bitter, you at least have some goodies coming your way. The NHL knows it has some making up to do, and has announced a series of initiatives to help win fans back who may be sore with the league. I've obtained a copy of their game plan, highlights of which are printed below.

NHL Fan Redemption Program: Don't Look Back in Fan-ger

Keep the goodies coming

Fans to get premium interest rates for any loans used at games to buy hot dogs and beer.

- "Thank you, fans" messages plastered throughout league will have not one, not two, not three, but FOUR exclamation points, to show it's not hollow. They will be placed not just on the ice but also in other places where they can be easily viewed, such as on the seats in Phoenix.
- Ilya Bryzgalov, Tim Thomas and Paul Bissonnette to lead league-wide seminars on dealing with the media.
- The league hopes to put a positive spin on the work stoppage with a free download of Stompin' Tom Connor's little-known Hockey Related Revenue Song. ("Hello out there, Bettman and Fehr, it's lockout night tonight. The Make Whole's closed and the pension grows but the NHL's on ice...")
- Fans to get premium interest rates for any loans used at games to buy hot dogs and beer.
- The NHL will expand further to Corpus Christi, Texas, and Mobile, Ala., so that the current expansion teams don't seem so ridiculous. Other possibilities include Mexico, Japan, and the molten hot core of the earth. Anything but Hamilton.
- Half-price coupons for the season-ticket holders in Anaheim: Specifically, David and Jennifer Boyd of 1058 Sunnyside Avenue, Anaheim, Calif.
- Make NHL Centre Ice free, UNLESS revenue is less than \$2.2 billion this season, in which case part of an NHL Centre Ice fund will go into escrow, which would then be distributed to Make Whole production costs, provided fans don't decide to file a disclaimer of interest, in which case...
- Gary Bettman leaving NHL to take over NASCAR. His first goal will be to expand the sport into 'blue' states and Canada.

Say your piece

Which token will lose its Free Parking spot?

The gig is almost up for one of the eight Monopoly tokens. But which will it be? Iron? Thimble? Top Hat? Or another of their board game buddies?

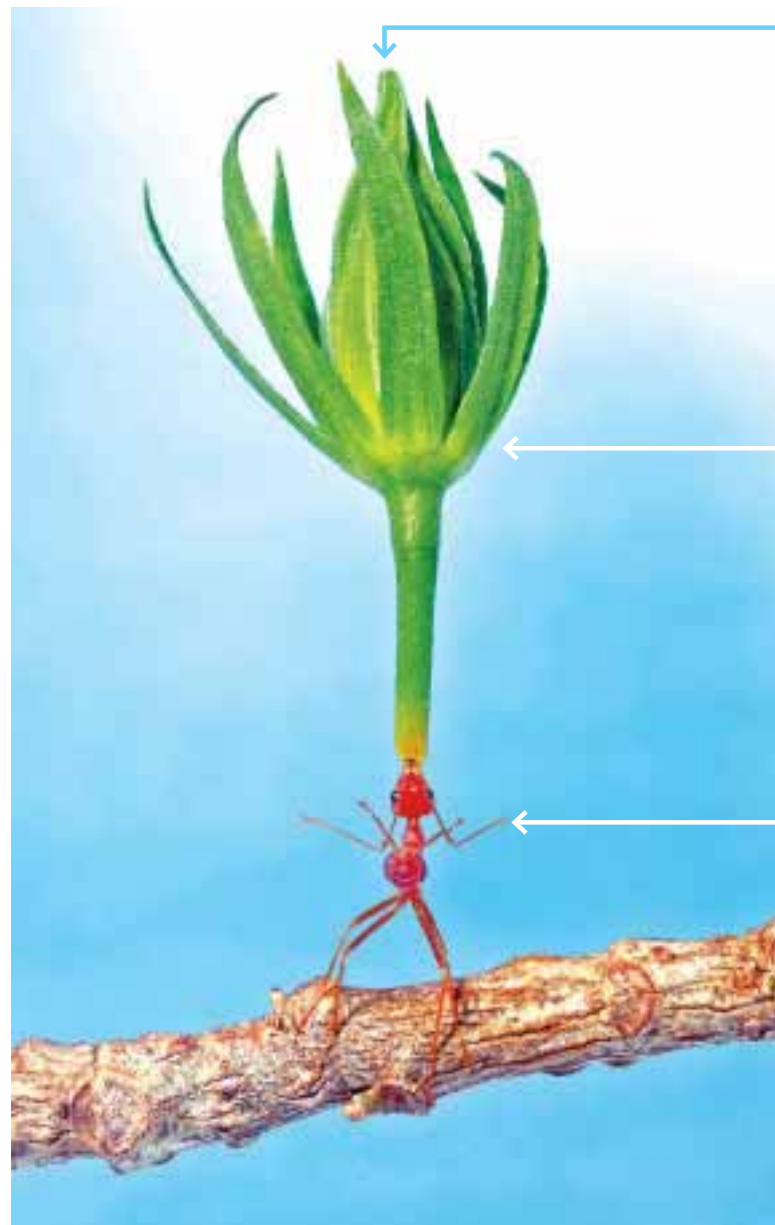
Hasbro is holding a Facebook contest to eliminate one of the eight tokens



that identify the players and introduce a new one. Possible new tokens include a cat, diamond ring, guitar, toy robot and helicopter. So if you are tired of the iron token and would rather be represented by a robot, here's your chance to make those wishes known. Facebook fans of Monopoly can vote on which piece to eliminate and which one to add. The voting ends Feb. 5.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Straight from the ant's mouth



LESSY SEBASTIAN/SOLENT

Mighty balancing act

Insect shows off towering feat

This red ant puts on a show with incredible strength and balance as it lifts a large flower bud above its head. The insect stood on its hind legs and balanced the green shoot with its mouth as it sauntered across the tree branch. Photographer Lessy Sebastian, 48, spotted the ant near his mom's house in Jakarta, Indonesia. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

This bud's for you



"I got the idea to replace one of the leaves they were carrying with a little flower bud."

Lessy Sebastian, photographer.

Sebastian intentionally added the flower bud to the pile of leaves the ants were gathering and sat back and waited for one to pick it up.

Ant facts

- **Legendary strength.** A leaf-cutter ant can carry a leaf 50 times its body weight.
- **As old as dinosaurs.** Harvard scientists estimate that ants first arose in the mid-Cretaceous period — about 110-130 million years ago.
- **Population.** Experts reckon ants number up to 10 quadrillion (10,000,000,000,000) — more than 140,000 times the human population.



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

One in 24 U.S. adults have admitted to falling asleep behind the wheel. What's your best tip for staying alert on the road?



Twitter

@MissRabbitxo: Hipster glasses. Hipster glasses everywhere.

@Ehr_max: The beautiful sunshine is melting the snow so all I wanna do is give it a high five and pat on the back

@k_ksmith: Its really hard to not chirp #lakings doughty about the @Van-Canucks right now

@EyeLookMedia: Walloping windstorms Batman! A wee bit windy in #ldnont #weather

@melissah05: Class 4-6 today.. To go or not to go? #stupidsschedule #fanshawe

@delsoltani: To the girl in the Tim's line with no shoes: does this look like your home? Why else would you be shoeless? #getsomeshoes #WesternU



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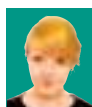


Western grad and local artist Dickson Bou's collaborative exhibit with Victoria artist Thomas Chisholm, opens Friday at the Forest City Gallery. AMANDA GRANT/FOR METRO

Shipwrecks and plane crashes inspire new show

Collaboration.

Bracket(ed) opens 40th anniversary year at Forrest City Gallery



BACKSTAGE PASS
Amanda Grant
london@metronews.ca

The New Year marks the Forest City Gallery's 40th anniversary in London and to start it off in the spirit of the gallery, the first exhibition of 2013 will feature local artists Dickson Bou.

Bou's exhibition, Bracket(ed), is a collaboration with fellow artist Thomas Chisholm. The pair met at grad school, both studying fine art at the University of Victoria, and discovered they

had a complementary aesthetic, leading them to team up for the exhibition.

The title of the show is a literal representation of the physical artwork. Bou's pieces are sculptures, placed on the floor throughout the gallery, while Chisholm has contributed long, curved aluminum paintings for the walls, reminiscent of brackets.

"I never like to be too literal," said Bou. "But I had this idea that Thomas was making brackets and my work is being bracketed."

Bou's sculptures are white shards, geometric icebergs floating through the gallery. The pieces draw on images of airplanes and shipwrecks to create an abstract collection.

"They're designed to remind the viewer of different things in the world. They look like wings, because it was dur-

ing the time I was flying back and forth between London and Victoria," said Bou.

"I also imagined a ship going through icebergs and that quietness and the extremes between that natural scenery and shipwreck or a chaotic airplane crash," Bou added. "I wanted to create something beautiful but also tragic."

Bou's work focuses on object recognition and audience interaction. He creates pieces that change as you move closer or observe them from a different point of view.

"There is an open narrative to this piece and the viewer will try to figure it out and connect the sculptures together," Bou said. "With (Chisholm's) paintings there becomes this dark versus light which is a nice contrast of two artists and their aesthetics."

The show's opening reception is Friday at the Forest City Gallery from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Next door, at Hot Dog Musique and Cinema, Brain Trust, local artists James Kirkpatrick and Peter Thompson's experimental band, will perform at seven to kick-off the event.

"We're trying to get back to the gallery's mandate and into music and that connection between art and music in the city," said Jenna Powell, director of the Forest City Gallery. "This is about fostering partnerships with the community."

Following Friday's opening, Bou and Chisholm will host an artist talk Saturday afternoon at the gallery from one to 2 p.m. The exhibit runs until Feb. 15. The gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday noon to 5 p.m. and

Around town

- **Music.** Just in time for frost week, Canadian dubstep DJ Datsik is in London, performing Friday at the London Music Hall. Tickets are \$18.50 available at ticketdriver.com. Doors open at 10 p.m.
- **Music.** Also on Friday, Out of Sound records is hosting a free seven-inch release show at the Outback Shack at Fanshawe College. Local bands I Smell Blood and Wild Domestic will perform with touring acts Bleet and WTCHS. Doors open at 9 p.m.

admission is free (though donations are welcome).

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The Carrie Diaries premieres Jan. 14 at 10 p.m. ET on City. HANDOUT

Before Blahniks and Big, Bradshaw had a bestie...

The Carrie Diaries. Canadian actress Ellen Wong is set to get Carried away as the young pal of one of New York's finest

ELIZABETH
BEDDALL
scene@metronews.ca

So, much like the young Carrie Bradshaw in your new show The Carrie Diaries (played by AnnaSophia Robb), you've recently been bouncing back and forth between New York City and your hometown (Toronto). Is there a location you prefer?

At this point in my life, I love being in New York. I'm being introduced to an amazing city that oozes with creativity and vibrancy and I'm learning more about myself creatively, being there. And also getting to work on a show with so many amazing people ... I love it.

It's almost like my second home. But Toronto, I always

say that my heart lives there. Every time I come back, it's like I don't need to adjust to anything, I'm just home.

In the show you play a young Carrie Bradshaw's loyal, bright and hard-working high school pal Jill "The Mouse" Thompson. Are there similarities between you and your character?

That's one of the main reasons I'm drawn to the show. Because I felt like I related to the character very much. But I also saw a chance to play a character that I never really saw on TV growing up.

I'm playing a girl oscillating between two worlds — she has Chinese parents so her world at home is different than the world that she goes to school and exists in with her friends. So she's trying to find a place that fits for her.

Were you a big Sex and the City fan in its heyday?

I actually started watching the series after we shot the pilot. It was a fun project and I watched the entire

Mouse mellows out

"I'd like to see her loosen up a little bit as the series goes on, to just go with the flow."

Ellen Wong

series over the summer. It was the best way to watch it because I wasn't having to wait week to week to see what was going to happen next.

So every girl likes to align herself with a character. Are you a Miranda, Charlotte, Samantha or Carrie?

Sometimes I feel like I always give a different answer because I've thought about it so much. What I loved was that there weren't really the stereotypical archetypes in the show — each of the characters had their own thing but were also very related.

What I really liked about the show was that I was able to identify with each of the characters. And that was similar with the Carrie Diar-

ies. You have all these people with unique attributes but then they also are growing up and trying to figure out their lives together and you can relate to all of them.

Fashion and this franchise go hand in hand. So if Mouse was catapulted to the future and became an actual character on Sex and the City, what would her wardrobe look like?

I think she would have more flair because I think right now she's very conservative and practical. Which is fine and it's who she is now. I'd like to see her loosen up a little bit as the series goes on, to just go with the flow. Maybe soft, silky pieces, but still conservative and closed up ... just a little bit more of a risk taker here and there with more colours and different lines.

What store would she max out her credit card at?

I see Mouse as someone who would end up very worldly, so maybe she would get her wardrobe from all over the world.

Fox chairman happy network escaped from a difficult 2012

Ratings. Network banking on a strong January to return it to the top of the television charts

NED
EHRBAR
Metro World News

In stark contrast to NBC president Robert Greenblatt's triumphant entrance Sunday, former NBC head and current Fox chairman Kevin Reilly began his network's presentation to the Television Critics Association on a much humbler note, admitting that Fox is "limping our way in out of 2012," he said.

"No one is happier than us to turn the page."

But even NBC's Greenblatt conceded earlier this week that January is traditionally where Fox's ratings come alive, thanks primarily to the return of American Idol, which debuts with new judges Mariah Carey, Nicki Minaj and Keith Urban Jan. 16.



Kevin Reilly, Fox chairman, didn't mince words when giving his assessment of 2012. GETTY IMAGES



AMC's The Walking Dead drawing the attention of larger networks

Fox chairman Kevin Reilly continually pointed to the success of AMC's The Walking Dead as something the network is aware of and looking to keep up with, especially where Fox's new serial killer drama, The Following, is concerned.

"There have been more violent shows on TV. Clearly there is appetite, people like these things," he said.

"When you put on a thriller, you have to compete at that level. We must match the intensity, otherwise we'll pale in comparison." NED EHRBAR/METRO WORLD NEWS



Justin Bieber ALL GETTY IMAGES

After another fight Gomez is 'done' with Bieber

Justin Bieber has been having a turbulent 2013 so far, and it may all stem from his failed attempts to patch things up with Selena Gomez. The pair reportedly embarked on a New Year's getaway to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, but Gomez left

before any champagne bottles could be opened, according to *Us Weekly*. "They had another huge fight, and Selena won't forgive him," a source says of Gomez, who flew home Dec. 30. "Selena is done with him."



Eva Mendes and Ryan Gosling

Gosling's mom given key to Eva Mendes' closet

Ryan Gosling's girlfriend, Eva Mendes, didn't make it to the *Gangster Squad* premiere earlier this week, but some of her stuff did at least. "My mother's wearing all my girlfriend's clothes,"

Gosling, who brought along mom Donna as his date, told *E!* News. Donna, donning a short dress and elaborate trench coat, confirmed, "I'm wearing Eva Mendes. She let me raid her closet."

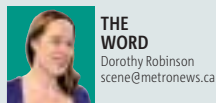
METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



An opinion on what *The Bachelor* is really thinking



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

In *Touch* magazine has "exclusive pics" of the "sexiest bachelor ever" in this week's edition. The mag shows this season's star of *The Bachelor*, Sean Lowe, with his torso wrapped in a blue towel as he channels his inner Angelina in an undisclosed shower somewhere.

After he covered up, he gave an insightful interview to the magazine. (Just kidding! It was a totally generic chat!) Lowe, who is a former linebacker and

works as an insurance salesman, says he is "very hopeful that I'll meet a great girl" on the show. "I would love to get married. I'm absolutely ready for love."

As he whittles down the pool of 26 single, desperate women to his one true love on national television, he has an idea of what he is looking for. "She has to be genuine, want the same things I want, and have a great sense of humour," he says.

Just for once, I wish these guys would speak the truth: "I'm looking for someone who is as fame-hungry yet dim-witted as I am, who will pretend to be my girlfriend for the allotted time our contract spells out. She should also be skinny and look like a professional dancer from Reno. Not eating my arm in my sleep due to starving herself through most of her 20s is also a bonus."



Lindsay Lohan

Lohan's mother blames Lindsay's dad for their daughter's problems

Dina Lohan says all of daughter Lindsay Lohan's problems can be blamed on Michael Lohan being an awful husband. "Lindsay saw her dad abuse me. That's why she's so screwed up," Dina tells the *New York Daily News*. "She saw a lot

of crazy stuff. I want the world to know the root of her problems." Michael, for his part, refutes the claims. "She's bringing this up now because she's drinking and partying with Lindsay," he says. "And she keeps robbing Lindsay. She is the devil."

Twitter



@rihanna

I bet you wanna know what I'm all about



@Sethrogen

They may have made a disgusting mockery of news media as we know it, but Fox has put together one hell of a Tuesday lineup.



@RebelWilson

I got dressed in the dark this morning (weirdly, I look better than usual...maybe I should cut off the electricity more often?)



@SethMacFarlane

Just want to point out that the dinner party in "The Hobbit" is the same length as an actual dinner party.

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Will, here I am!

Oh, this right here?
When Will.i.am. gets dressed, he wants you to notice his clothes — and gadgets too. He talks techcessories, Kanye West and Japanese fashion.

RICHARD PECKETT
life@metronews.ca

"It's like warp speed now and BOOM! It's pretty exciting." That's how Will.i.am describes taking his i.am+ iPhone accessory from conception to the shop floor in just seven months. We're sitting in a recording studio in London talking about his love of gadgets and fashion, which, by the way, hasn't gone unnoticed amongst his music pals.

DJ David Guetta describes him as "a bit of a crazy scientist who has difficulty with only doing one thing at a time." So true. Right now, his long list of side projects include appearing as a judge on Britain's version of The Voice, an album with Guetta and a X-Factor-style television show that he plans to release in late 2013.

What were you trying to achieve with the i.am+ project?

Let's take a tourist with their camera and their sense of odyssey, documentation and pleasure and turn this into a cool, wearable camera. It's an iPhone case that actually serves a functional purpose — it's phone, function and fashionology. Personalization, customization and rare oddities are the season right now. You can have anything right now, but what about limitation and exclusivity? You don't want to go all the way Steampunk



Will.i.am's foto.sosho is being marketed as the world's first digital camera and app combination for the iPhone 4s and iPhone 5. It transforms phones into a digital cameras with photo filters, image editing and instant social media upload. PROVIDED

because Steampunk is like super, super, super, dooper rare. What I mean is, the design has to pay tribute to limitation and functionality.

A lot of celebrities branch out into design and fashion, why do you think it's becoming so commonplace?

You want my honest opinion? Their manager told them that they could make some money here.

Like who?

I don't want to put people under a bus.

What do you think of Kanye West's line?

Kanye, I see his passion and I understand his passion. He's going to figure it out.

Is that your way of saying his clothing line still needs some work?

No, Kanye's game is that he wants to design. He's saying, "I want you guys to see my stuff." That's dope, right? He's not playing the usual (celebrity) game — he's passionate.

Would you buy any of his designs?

Yeah, because I like going for treasures. I want people to say, "Where did you get that?" "Oh, this right here? This is one of Kanye's pieces." I got it. They're conversation pieces.

Speaking of conversation pieces, you collaborated on a collection with the Japanese label Rynshu. How did you discover the line?

I was that guy who said, "Where did you get that? Rynshu? What the hell's Rynshu? Can you text it to me?"

What kind of guy wears Rynshu?

Tech-savvy, fashion-forward people. Invisible tastemakers.

Sounds like you. You've had a few different looks over the years. How do you know when it's time to change it up?

When you see this silhouette (points to himself) out multiple times on people that you probably wouldn't want to hang out with. That's why I hit up Rynshu, Loveless, Verbal and Yoon in Japan. I go to all the little cool spots that are rare enough, so I don't look like everybody else. I need to have some oddities, dude!

How would you describe your look at the moment?

Short in the back, long in the front, draping on top and skinny on the bottom — with big shoes.

THE MAN'S MANY LOOKS

If each outfit were a song, what would Will.i.am call it?



"I'd call that one Ghetto Egypt. It's fit but loose. I like different shades of black and gold. Right now, all the kids are rocking two chains, so I'm rocking five."



BOTH PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

"I'd call this look, Peace. (Laughs) Err, we were being fun and young. No ... no, I wouldn't wear that now."

The Kit

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Halifax

Katie Tower
Graphic designer
Age: 26

What she's wearing

Club Monaco coat, Madewell shirt, Urban Outfitters necklace, H&M skirt, Hansel from Basel tights, Boots from Soula in Brooklyn, Topshop purse.

Her inspiration

"I dress for my mood and the weather."

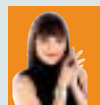
I also take inspiration from blogs and stylish people I see on the street."

THE KIT PHOTOBLOGGER: MEGHAN TANSEY WHITTON, FASHIONEASTHALIFAX.COM

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@Jeanne_Beker: Attention foodies: Feast your eyes on Chef Damon Campbell's scrumptious creation for @shangrilato



@Jeanne_Beker: Some of my favourite old evening bags! Showing off my collection @theloopca Stay tuned...

Showing your home? Make it perfect

It takes more than just luck to sell your house. With proper evaluation of both your property and the current market, your chances of success are greatly increased. But many factors can ultimately contribute to a successful showing/sale of your home. Here are five tips you might consider when selling your largest financial asset, from Todd Talbot Host of Love It or List It Vancouver. The show premiered Monday on W Network.



First impressions

Many folks forget the first impression! Even before a buyer sees your home, they need to get through the front door. Make sure that the key and the lock work effortlessly. Don't leave instructions to "pull hard on the door, jiggle the key to the left, then quickly to the right". First question I'd be thinking: "What else is wrong with this place?"

Be prepared

Make sure everyone living at the house is aware when showings are scheduled. The buyer and the Realtor knock, then audibly announce their arrival, but you can't hear because you are in the shower. Wandering out of the shower as potential buyers are wandering down the hall is awkward. It happens!



Appropriate presentation

Ensure the house has an appropriate presentation. False teeth on the bedside table, or a camera on a tripod pointed at the bed tend to draw focus away from the house. Make sure that the house — and only the house — is the most memorable aspect of the tour.

Know your weaknesses

Do you really want to be at the meeting when the offer is presented? Will you be helpful to the negotiations or harmful? Can you control your emotional response? Are you so friendly and chatty that you detract from the process? Know your strengths and above all, know your weaknesses and discuss a strategy with your Realtor. Remember that while your home is your pride and joy, ultimately the sale of that home is a business transaction. And that can be hard emotionally. Your Realtor is a professional who acts on your instructions. Sometimes the best choice is to let your agent negotiate reporting back to you when a decision needs to be made.



Plan the closing day

Pick dates for completion and possession that allow you to seamlessly move into your new home. It's not ideal to have to keep all your worldly possessions in a moving truck for a few days while you wait for your new house. So have a plan in mind that you discuss with your Realtor in advance of receiving an offer.

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Cure the winter blahs with Italian-style Onion Soup with Poached Egg

1. In a large saucepan over medium heat, cook the pancetta until it is golden. Transfer it to a plate using a slotted spoon.

2. Return the saucepan to medium heat. Add the olive oil and onions, then cook, covered but stirring occasionally, until very soft, about 20 minutes. Remove the cover and cook, stirring frequently, for another 35 to 45 minutes,

Ingredients

- 2 oz chopped pancetta
- 3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 lbs yellow onions, thinly sliced
- 1 cup red wine
- 5 cups low-sodium beef or chicken broth
- Kosher salt
- 1 tbsp white or cider vinegar
- 4 large eggs
- 1 1/2 oz Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, finely grated (about 1/2 cup)
- Ground black pepper
- Eight 1/2-inch-thick baguette slices, toasted

or until the onions are golden brown and caramelized. Add the wine and boil until it is reduced by half. Add the broth and simmer for another 20 minutes.

3. Bring a large saucepan of salted water to a low simmer. Add the vinegar.

4. Crack each egg into a small glass. One at a time, gently and slowly pour each egg into the simmering water, bringing the lip of the glass right down to the water so that the egg slides in. Depending on the size of your pan, you may need to cook them in 2 batches. Cook for 4 minutes, then use a slotted spoon to lift each egg out (letting excess water drip away).

5. To serve, ladle the soup into 4 bowls. Top each with a poached egg, sprinkle with some of the cheese, some of the pancetta and pepper to taste. Serve each portion with 2 toasts on the side. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ SARA MOULTON, AUTHOR OF THREE COOKBOOKS, INCLUDING SARA MOULTON'S EVERYDAY FAMILY DINNERS.**



This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cookbook of the Week

Foods that will warm you right up



When it's chilly outside, we crave those comfort foods. In *Fireside Feasts & Snow Day Treats*, you get plenty of warming dishes, including Over-braised Lamb Shanks with Potatoes and Tomatoes, Steak and Blue Cheese Salad, Chicken Pot Pie with Tarragon and Leeks, Hazelnut Cheesecake Bars and more.

The book makes the most of the finest seasonal ingredients, is beautifully illustrated and boasts sections such as: Snow Day Snacks, Cold Day Comforts, Fireside Feasts, Winter Salads, Indulgent Treats and A Cup of Cheer. **METRO**

The perfect end to a winter meal: Sticky Toffee Pudding

Sticky toffee pudding drenched in aromatic rum sauce is simple and tastes totally decadent.

1. In saucepan, place dates in water. Bring to a boil and simmer over low heat for a couple of minutes. Set aside.

2. In a bowl, cream together

Ingredients

- 250 g (8 oz) chopped pitted dates
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) water
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) butter
- 250 ml (1 cup) firmly packed brown sugar
- 10 ml (2 tsp) vanilla extract
- 2 extra-large eggs
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) molasses
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) golden syrup
- 400 ml (1 2/3 cups) flour
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) baking powder
- 5 ml (1 tsp) baking soda
- Whipped cream and cookie, for garnish

Divine Rum Sauce

- 500 ml (2 cups) brown sugar
- 250 ml (1 cup) butter
- 250 ml (1 cup) heavy cream
- 60 ml (2 oz) rum (preferably dark)



This recipe serves 12. THE CANADIAN PRESS HANDOUT

butter, sugar and vanilla. Beat in eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add in molasses and syrup and beat well.

3. In separate bowl, sift together flour and baking powder.

4. Add dry ingredients to creamed mixture in 3 equal portions, mixing until smooth after each addition.

In a food processor, puree date mixture, then add baking soda. Add to batter and

mix until smooth.

5. Pour batter into well-greased muffin tins. Do not overfill; you want to avoid a "muffin top." Bake in a 180 C (350 F) oven for 20 minutes. When making this dessert, it's better to err on the side of slightly under-baked rather than over-baked. Should be removed from oven as soon as centres are firm.

6. For sauce: In a large pot, melt brown sugar and butter together over medium heat.

Allow to come to a rolling boil and cook for 2 minutes. Add cream in a slow steady stream (this will cause a bit of sputtering). Once cream is incorporated, stir in rum and return to a boil; cook for another 5 minutes, watching carefully to ensure sauce does not boil over. Serve warm and refrigerate any leftovers.

7. Top each serving with rum sauce and whipped cream. Garnish with a festive cookie. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ TASTE OF NOVA SCOTIA, TASTE OF NOVA SCOTIA.COM**

Country Chicken Casserole. Cold January days call for comfort eats

1. In a large saucepan, heat 10 ml (2 tsp) of the oil over medium heat. Sauté garlic, leek, carrots, parsnips, mushrooms, 4 ml (3/4 tsp) of the thyme, salt and pepper for 6 minutes or until vegetables are tender-crisp.

2. Whisk flour into milk; gradually stir into saucepan along with broth and mustard. Cook, stirring, for 5 minutes or until bubbling and thickened. Remove from heat. Stir in chicken and peas. Spoon into a 2-l (8-cup) baking dish.

3. In a bowl, toss bread with remaining oil and thyme until coated; sprinkle over chicken mixture. Bake in a 220 C (425 F) oven for 12 to 14 minutes or until bread is toasted and sauce is bubbling. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/FOODLAND ONTARIO**

Ingredients

- 20 ml (4 tsp) olive oil, divided
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 leek (white and light green parts), chopped
- 250 ml (1 cup) each sliced carrots and parsnips
- 250 ml (1 cup) quartered mushrooms
- 6 ml (1 1/4 tsp) dried thyme leaves, divided
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) each salt and pepper
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) all-purpose flour
- 250 ml (1 cup) 1 per cent milk
- 250 ml (1 cup) sodium-reduced chicken broth
- 10 ml (2 tsp) Dijon mustard
- 500 ml (2 cups) shredded cooked chicken or turkey
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) frozen peas
- 500 ml (2 cups) torn whole-wheat bread pieces

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Buds drop bombshell with season looming

NHL. Burke won't get chance to watch rebuild come to fruition after being bounced before games begin

Brian Burke's colourful tenure as general manager of the Toronto Maple Leafs was never short on drama.

So it's fitting his firing would shock the entire hockey world.

The Leafs dropped the bombshell Wednesday, announcing they had relieved the fiery Burke of his duties as president and general manager and replaced him with his right-hand man, Dave Nonis.

While the Leafs had never reached the playoffs during Burke's four seasons at the helm, the timing of the move was surprising given it comes just days before the start of the lockout-shortened season.

But Tom Anselmi, the president of Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment, said the decision had been talked about for months following an extensive review of the hockey club by Anselmi and the new ownership group. MLSE was officially taken over by Rogers and BCE in August.

"The news is coming as a shock, but I don't think the decision has happened overnight," Anselmi told a packed, hastily assembled news conference at the Air Canada Centre. "It's a conversation that's been ongoing and we came to a decision."

"Once we got to that decision I'm a firm believer it's only fair to make the decision and move forward."

Anselmi said Burke, 57,



Newly-appointed Maple Leafs general manager Dave Nonis speaks to reporters in Toronto on Wednesday.
CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

will remain with the team as a senior adviser.

The decision caught even Nonis by surprise. The 46-year-old native of Burnaby, B.C., was with Burke on Tuesday night watching the AHL's Hamilton Bulldogs edge the Toronto Marlies 2-1.

"I came in (Wednesday) morning and was informed of the decision," a solemn Nonis said. "This is a shock for a lot of people."

The daunting task of ending hockey's longest playoff drought — seven seasons — now lies with Nonis, a close friend and protege of Burke's.

One of his first priorities will be to sort out the club's goaltending situation. Rumours that the Leafs are in talks with the Vancouver Canucks to acquire Roberto Luongo have been floating around

History repeats

Dave Nonis replaced Brian Burke as Vancouver's GM in 2004, and began a four year term in his only previous posting as an NHL GM.

- Nonis ultimately compiled a 130-91-25 record as the Canucks GM, and was relieved of his duties in April 2008, after the Canucks failed to make the playoffs and meet

expectations with a roster featuring Roberto Luongo, Daniel and Henrik Sedin and Markus Naslund.

- Nonis inherited the Vancouver GM post having spent the previous six seasons under Burke as the Canucks' director of hockey operations.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

for months. There was talk Wednesday that a potential Luongo deal may have been a factor in Burke's dismissal.

Anselmi said that wasn't the case.

"No, no, not at all," he said.

Nonis said he couldn't discuss any pending trans-

actions.

"First of all, it doesn't help get a deal done and second of all we're not permitted to do so," said Nonis. "Players that (are) under contract to other clubs remain off limits in terms of commenting."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Baseball

Voters fail to elect new HOF members

Steroid-tainted stars Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens and Sammy Sosa were denied entry to baseball's Hall of Fame, with voters failing to elect any candidates for only the second time in four decades.

In a vote that keeps the game's career home run leader and one of its greatest pitchers out of Cooperstown — at least for now — Bonds received 36.2 per cent of the vote and Clemens 37.6 in totals announced Wednesday by the hall and the Baseball Writers' Association of America, both well short of the 75 per cent necessary. Sosa, eighth on the career home run list, got 12.5 per cent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Humble Bettman says he's sorry

With the third lockout on his watch finally nearing its end, NHL commissioner Gary Bettman apologized in a "personal statement" delivered to reporters Wednesday in New York after he announced that owners had unanimously voted in favour of ratifying the new collective bargaining agreement.

"To the players who were very clear they wanted to be on the ice and not negotiating labour contracts, to our partners who support the league financially and personally, and most importantly to our fans, who love and have missed NHL hockey, I'm sorry," said Bettman. "I know that an explanation or an apology will not erase the hard feelings that have built up over the past few months but I owe you an apology, nevertheless."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Knights deal fan favourite Raine to Sudbury



Defenceman Kevin Raine, pictured here at Knights practice at Budweiser Gardens on Wednesday, was traded to the Sudbury Wolves shortly after leaving the ice. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Just prior to the start of London Knights practice on Wednesday, and less than 24 hours before the Ontario Hockey League trade deadline, Brett Welychka's thoughts trailed off.

"I don't know what's going to happen today, but being the last day ..."

He — like most OHLers — are left in the dark every year at this time, as general managers work the phones in hopes of scooping up that missing piece.

The 34-5-1-2 Knights had been quiet on the trade front, obtaining new players only through signings. Then, at around 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, they swapped 19-year-old defencemen with Sudbury.

Reaction to Burke firing

"I guess it is kind of disappointing, because you know he drafted you for a reason."

Knights forward and Toronto draft pick Ryan Rupert on Leafs GM Brian Burke's firing.

Hard-hitting Kevin Raine is now a member of the middle-of-the-pack Wolves. Sudbury is also eligible to receive a conditional fourth round pick in the 2015 OHL draft. Coming the other way is San Jose Sharks prospect Justin Selfton, drafted 89th overall in the 2011 NHL draft.

"You see the changes some other teams are making, especially in our division, and we have to keep up with them," said Knights captain Scott Harrington, in an interview before the deal. "You can never stop getting better as a team."

Knights GM Mark Hunter has improved his D dramatically over the past nine days, jacking up an already stingy defence-goalie combination.

The club, who have allowed the fourth fewest goals per game in the OHL, added a pair of collegiate players in defenceman Dakota Mermis and goalie Anthony Stolarz on Jan. 1 and Jan. 8, respectively.

JOHN MATISZ/METRO



Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

There is no limit to what you can do over the next few days, but you must have a clear idea of what it is you wish to accomplish. The chance of a lifetime could be heading your way at this very moment.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Listen carefully to what someone tells you today and start thinking of ways you can use this information to make your everyday life more enjoyable. What you do with this knowledge matters more than where it came from.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You have some serious issues to deal with, issues that will determine whether you make a big profit or a big loss. The most important thing is that your aims are realistic. Also, stick to what you are good at.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You are determined to get to the bottom of a situation that has been worrying you for many weeks. What you find may surprise you but it will also help you understand why certain people have been acting strangely.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Pace yourself sensibly today because the planets warn if you don't slow down you could do yourself some harm. If what you put into a task is more than what you get out of it then it's time to stop.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

This is still a good time of year for you and with Venus now moving through the most dynamic area of your chart romance and creativity are under excellent stars. What does your heart desire most? Go out and get it.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Cosmic activity in the domestic sector of your chart will make it easy to find the words that make a difference when dealing with loved ones and relatives. Always be nice, even when others are not being nice to you.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You will turn on the charm today and get anything — yes, anything — you desire. When the mood takes you, as it does now, you know exactly what to say to wrap friends and loved ones round your little finger.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Because you don't like to cause a scene, you may have let someone get away with too much in recent weeks. Now you must get a grip on the situation and make sure they know it was a one-off event.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

People will make a better job of things if you give them the freedom to make decisions. With both the Sun and Venus moving through your sign, you don't have to worry about them getting it wrong.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You must never be afraid to use a few harsh words if you think they are needed, and it seems they are needed now. Partners and work colleagues must be made to realize that you will not be pushed around.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

Cosmic activity in some of the more dynamic areas of your chart will give you the energy and the self-belief to put yourself on show over the next 24 hours. Don't worry what others might think — just be yourself.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across & Down

Across

- Peggys __, NS
- Ottawa-born singer/songwriter Paul
- 7's phone letters
- Crunchy
- Luxury label
- Character in The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, __ Bones
- "ET Canada" co-host Rick
- Capital of Latvia
- 2-__ tissue
- "Stompa" is a hit off this Juno-winner's latest album 'Harmony': 2 wds.
- Ms. MacNeil
- Good
- Trend in manicures: 2 wds.
- Green Gables girl
- Approx. take-offs
- Shakespearean verse
- Angkor __ (Temple in Cambodia)
- Pool nuisance
- Pre-__ student
- Rocker Bryan
- Affiliation
- Canadian grocery store chain
- Diva's vocal
- Power symbols for Pharaohs
- Ads-emailed-in-bulk source
- Maggie Smith's "Downton Abbey" role
- Nitassinan is their homeland
- Winnipeg's __ Park
- French possessive
- Miss Lane of comics
- Canadian director David
- "Before __ you go..."
- Suffix to 'Billion'
- Heckle
- Rep.'s political rival
- Parked cars areas
- Tori of tunes

Down

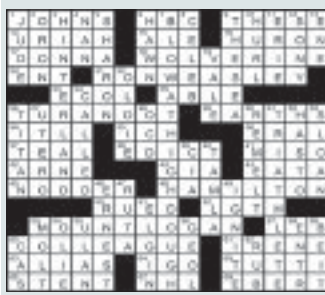
- USSR, to Russians
- Toothbrush brand, __B
- The great victory, and sacrifice, of the Canadian Corps of April 9th to April 12th, 1917: The Battle of __
- Clairvoyance, commonly
- French aviation pioneer, Clement __
- Egypt's river
- City on the Rhein
- She gave Theseus thread to escape the Minotaur's labyrinth
- "__ & Prejudice" (2005)
- Vancouver-born actor Seth
- Intelligent
- Penne, for example
- Actress, __ Dallas Howard
- Approaches
- Designer, Oscar de la __



- Ingrid's "Casablanca" (1942) role
- "Nifty!"
- Mythical Hun king
- Pyramids, pretty much
- Comic actor Mr. Samberg's
- Social pages word
- Canadian __ (Military attraction in Ottawa): 2 wds.
- Marie-Claire's friend
- Ivan the Terrible's job
- German industrial city
- Rhett's famous word
- Hakim __ (Eyewear chain)

- Back
- Names on it are Brad, Halle, George, etc.
- Concerning
- Authenticated
- River of Brittany in France
- Susan Aglukark song: " __ "
- Vigour
- Astronomy's __ cloud
- Chemical suffixes
- Rubik's Cube inventor, __ Rubik
- Mil. titles
- Farm call

Yesterday's Crossword

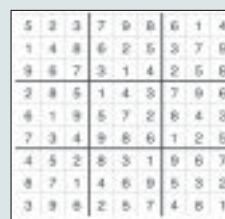


Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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